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LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a note verbale dated 15 November 1999 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of Iraq in Tehran (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Note verbale dated 15 November 1999 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of Iraq in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presets its compliments to the Embassy of Iraq in Tehran and has the honour to state that, according to the reports received from the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a number of Iraqi fishing boats, carrying armed individuals in civilian attire, have intercepted, over this recent period of time, Iranian commercial launches to Kuwait along the route taken by them and have embarked on the threatening and looting of these launches.

While protesting against such attacks, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran holds the Government of Iraq responsible for these acts, and therefore expects that the latter, with a view to contributing to the safety and security of international maritime navigation and preventing the recurrence of these incidents, will instruct the Iraqi fishers and armed forces accordingly and inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran (Legal Affairs General Directorate) of the result.

Obviously, the measures adopted to this end will contribute effectively to the process of normalization of the relations between the two countries.